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INFORMATIONAL LETTER #2003-3

DATE: April 1, 2003

TO: ALL IDAHO HOSPITALS

FROM: DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief

Bureau of Facility Standards

SUBJECT: REVISED HOSPITAL CONDITION OF PARTICIPATION: QUALITY

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The purpose of this letter is to notify Hospitals of a revised set of Federal regulations which replace the current Condition of Participation: Quality Assurance found at 42 CFR 482.21. The revised Condition of Participation: Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Program final rule was published in the Federal Register on Friday, January 24, 2003, and is in effect as of March 25, 2003. The Federal Register can be found at http://cms.hhs.gov/regulations.

Although the Interpretive Guidelines for the regulations have not yet been provided, all hospitals should begin reviewing their Quality Improvement programs to determine what changes need to be made to meet the revised requirements.

If you have questions, please call Sylvia Creswell, Non Long Term Care Supervisor, at 208/334-6626.

[original signed by Debby Ransom]

DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief Bureau of Facility Standards

DR/nah Enclosure

cc: Idaho Hospital Association